

ANDEX



INTERNATIONAL

8

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October – November, 1981

AND THEY DX-ed HAPPILY EVER AFTER

Nan L. Hawthorne No. 3685 and James Tedford No. 3271 of 518 Clancy St. N.E., Grand Rapids, Michigan, 49503, United States of America, have a very special story they'd like to share with all ANDEX members everywhere. They wrote a letter to ANDEX on 19 August 1981 and the letter goes as follows

"I (Jim) had joined ANDEX in April of 1979, and have gotten much enjoyment from the monthly bulletins. I had also started several interesting correspondences through the club.

In your September, 1980 bulletin you featured Nan Hawthorne, then of Iron Mountain, Michigan, as your DXer of the month. I was quite intrigued to see a DXer from my home state, so I wrote to Nan. We exchanged letters for several months. Through these letters we discovered that we had very much in common, not least of which was our mutual interest in shortwave.

Last June I paid a visit to Nan in Iron Mountain, and we stayed up half of the night DXing and talking radio!

This past July, Nan and I attended the Association of North American Radio Clubs (ANARC) convention in Thunder Bay, Ontario. It was here that we discovered that we had much more in common than a mutual interest in radio. It was there that Nan and I became engaged. We plan to marry in December.

Both of us have gotten much joy and excitement from short-wave radio, HCJB, and ANDEX. But we never dreamed we would find each other as a result! This is truly one of God's blessings.

We are both very fond and grateful to ANDEX, for it was through your organization that both of us found the person with whom we will share our lives. We're not sure if this is a unique situation, but we are a very happy DX couple as a result of HCJB! Both Nan and I look forward to many years of HCJB and ANDEX together."

We were happy to receive this letter from you, Jim and Nan, and give you our hearty congratulations.

SEND US A PHOTO OF THE HAPPY DAY!

TO BE OR NOT TO BE...INCLUDED

As this ANDEX bulletin went to press, it was still not known whether the new English Program Schedules which went into effect the first Sunday in November would be ready to include in this ANDEX mailing. So, all I can say is, if you find a new program schedule of HCJB in this envelope, it was ready and we included it. If you do not find a new program schedule in this envelope, it means that the schedules were not yet off the press and will be included in the next ANDEX mailing.

ANOTHER LETTER ...

Dear Friend,

I just had to send a note to tell you how much I love you and care about you. I saw you yesterday as you were walking with your friends. I waited all day hoping you would want to talk to me also. As evening drew near, I gave you a sunset to close your day and a cool breeze to rest you. And I waited. But you never came. It hurt me, but I still love you because I am your friend.

I saw you fall asleep last night and I longed to touch your brow. So, I spilled moonlight on your pillow and your face. Again I waited, wanting to rush down so that we could talk. I have so many gifts for you. But you awakened late the next day and rushed off to work. My tears were in the rain.

Today you looked so sad, so all alone. It makes my heart ache because I understand. My friends let me down and hurt me so many times, too. But I love you.

Oh, if you would only listen to me. I really love you. I try to tell you in the blue sky and in quiet green grass. I whisper it in the leaves on the trees and breathe it in the colors of the flowers. I shout it to you in the mountain streams and give the birds love songs to sing. I clothe you with warm sunshine and perfume the air with nature's scents. My love for you is deeper than the oceans and bigger than the biggest want or need in your heart.

If you only knew how much I want to help you. I want you to meet my Father. He wants to help you, too. My Father is that way, you know. Just call me, ask me, talk with me. I have so much to share with you. But, I won't hassle you. I'll wait because I love you.

Your friend,

Jesus

FEARLESS FORECAST FOR DECEMBER, 1981 - JANUARY, 1982

By John Stanley

It will be my policy in each issue of the ANDEX bulletin to draw the attention of members to opportunities for hearing DX that is best heard during the time period covered by that issue. If nothing special is in store during a particular time, we will consider long term trends or other factors not of a seasonal nature.

In the last issue we looked at high frequency and VHF signals that can be heard in the fall. This time we shift to the other end of the spectrum and talk about lower frequencies, because mid-winter is when those signals can best be heard.

However, if you are enjoying the high frequencies, don't abandon them altogether. On some days, December - January MUFs can be pretty high. (Our apologies to the 10% of our ANDEX members who inhabit the Southern Hemisphere . . . this forecast will be useful to you about six months from now! Here, in Quito, we are in the Southern Hemisphere also, by all of 20 kilometers. Meanwhile, back at winter up north.)

When the sun is as low on the horizon as it will get, let's say around December 21, listeners to low frequency signals have two important things going for them . . . darkness and low noise.

It gets dark every night of the year unless you live north of the Arctic Circle, but the longest night of the year is at the winter solstice. Since daylight rapidly reduces the range of the signals below 10 MHz or so, and any daylight completely does away with DX signals below about 2 MHz, the more darkness, the better the DX on the lower bands.

For frequencies below 5 MHz, that is; the Tropical Bands, the MW band (standard broadcast or AM), and the longwave bands, no real DX can be expected unless the sun is down or nearly down at (1) your QTH, (2) the DX station's QTH, (3) and all points in between. Incidentally, if (1) and (2) are true, (3) will always be true too. (If this isn't obvious to you, take a globe outdoors on a sunny day and try to get two places in shadow, and sunlight on the shortest line connecting them.) Since you know when it is dark at your QTH, knowing where else it is dark in the world at any given time will enable you to predict what parts of the world might be hearable on the low frequencies at the time you are listening.

A FEW SUGGESTIONS FOR BEGINNERS WHO WANT TO HEAR SOUTH AMERICA ON THE LOWER FREQUENCIES:

<u>FREQUENCY</u>	<u>POWER</u>	<u>STATION</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>LANGUAGE</u>	<u>TIME*</u>	<u>TIME**</u>
800 kHz	500 KW	TransWorld Radio	Bonaire, N. Antilles	English	0230	1130
5095 kHz	50 KW	Radio Sudatenza	Bogota, Colombia	Spanish	0100	1000
5075 kHz	25 KW	Radio Sudatenza	Bogota, Colombia	Spanish	0100	1000
3220 kHz	10 KW	HCJB	Quito, Ecuador	Quichua	0130	0900
3290 kHz	5 KW	Radio Zaracay	St. Domingo, Ecuador	Spanish	0100	1000

* Best time for listeners in Europe and Africa

** Best time for listeners in North America and Japan

This can be done in several ways. The simplest is to use the "Darkness Detector" map and overlay as a slide rule. Other techniques involve using a globe and a light source, or using a computer or programable calculator.

(If ANDEX members have access to these tools, we will publish programs in future issues. Write requesting this and specify the type of calculator or computer you have.)

Some experimentation with any of the above methods should show you something about winter DX. Not only are there more hours available for low frequency DXing in winter, but there are some parts of the world that can be heard **only** in winter, or, at least, only from September to March.

During your summer there are major portions of the globe that are never in the dark when you are. This means, for example, that Western North American listeners will never hear India on the Tropical Bands during summer. The further north you live, the more this is true.

For European listening, the "dead zone" for summer lies in the mid-Pacific where there are few broadcasters so the problem is less serious. There is a "dead zone" in winter, also. On December 21, it includes all the area inside the Antarctic Circle, but that's not too serious, especially for Tropical Band DXing!

Now you may also realize that there are two times each year when you share darkness, or, at least, twilight, with every place on earth during part of the 24 hour day; the equinoxes. However, the equinoxes are not normally as good as mid-winter for low frequency DX for the second reason, NOISE.

In a future issue we will deal with noise and its effect on SW listening. But this winter, just plan on enjoying the relative freedom from it that winter brings.

Consult good sources of information about Tropical and MW DXing. And be aware that winter nights are the time to tune way down and hear the low powered signals from halfway around the world that under cover of darkness want to find their way into your receiver. When the noise is down and the air is cold and crisp, you will hear them!

DXer OF THE MONTH

I think that anyone who has been a short wave listener and amateur radio operator for some 44 years deserves to be DXer of the month! And so I have picked William C. Willmot to be so featured in this current issue of ANDEX.

William is ANDEX member No. 325, having joined way back in 1974 when ANDEX was just getting started. He lives on Merritt Island, Florida, United States of America. Merritt Island is the home of the John F. Kennedy Space Center which is located on the north end of the island, about 15 miles from William's home.

His first receiver was a homemade one tube regenerative type. It was a simple set up compared to what he has now... a Ten Tec OMNI-A and a Swan 500-CX Transceiver; a Drake R4-A, a Drake SPR-4 with synthesizer and a Collins 51J-4 receiver. He also has two ARC-5 receivers for monitoring the 190-500 kHz spectrum. His antenna farm consists of a Hy Gain 18 AVT/WB vertical all band antenna, a Mosley TA-33-Jr 3 element tribander beam and a forty meter inverted "VEE". But William says "while my first set up could not begin to compare with today's receivers, I spent many enjoyable hours scanning the airwaves and monitoring world wide broadcasts with it."

ANDEX is not the only radio society of which William is a member. He is a life member and, presently, Vice President of the Society of Wireless Pioneers. In addition, he is a member of VWOA, QCWA, AWA, MTC, MMARC, 10-10 International Net, IRARC, OTC, A-1 Operators, ARRL, CSCG, NNRC, and Signal Corps Association. Obviously, William takes his radio seriously!

Although William is now retired and can devote his time to his favorite hobby, radio, he has had years of professional service in radio also. During World War II, he served as a radio operator in the Pacific Theater. After the war, he served a number of years as a communications officer in the National Guard. Then, in 1962, he joined the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) as a member of the United States Space Team and worked with them until his retirement in 1979.

William, being an amateur radio operator as we mentioned, has the call sign of K4TF and has made contact with over 250 countries. William mentions that he does QSL 100 percent and would appreciate SWL reports from any listener anywhere.

Okay, ANDEX members, tune in to fellow ANDEX member, William Willmot, and tell him CONGRATULATIONS for being DXer of the month.

THE ANTENNA CORNER

A Simple Antenna Tuner

While not strictly an antenna, the tuner shown here will make most antennas work better and is very useful in getting better results from a small antenna (one less than 1/4 of a wave



William C. Willmot

length long). Even if you have a large outdoor antenna, a tuner can help peak up signals and reject QRM.

Parts List: C1a and C1b represent equal sections of a two section BC variable. This can be salvaged from an old tube type AM (MW) set or bought. If you can not find one with equal sections, it is possible to remove rotor plates with a small pliers to make the capacity of both sections nearly equal. Remove any trimmer or padder capacitors.

L1 consists of 40 turns of wire in a one inch diameter coil. "AIR-DUX" coils are ideal, if available, otherwise, number 16 solid, bare copper can be used on a broomstick or other form. Space the wires so that connections can be made with alligator clips every two or three turns.

L2 is three turns of insulated wire wound around the center of L1. Bring the leads out to the antenna and ground terminals of your set.

Connect as shown. A nicely finished wood base and a vernier dial or large knob will add class to your tuner.

Using the Tuner: Clip input lead(s) from antenna to turns of the coil. Tune capacitor for best signal. Experiment with clips wide apart or close together for each meter band. Note best settings for future reference.

As described, the tuner should tune about 3-18 MHz. If your capacitor or coil differs from mine, the range may be different. Add turns to the coil to lower the range. Remove or short turns to raise it.

In future issues we will include antennas designed especially to work with this type of tuner.

THOSE ANDEX NUMBERS

This time I don't mean your membership number which should be put on every piece of correspondence you initiate so that we can speed up the handling of your letter . . . this time I'd like to say a few words about the total membership numbers of ANDEX.

George Sutcliffe No. 3976 asked, "How many Australians are there in ANDEX?". As you would guess, George is from Australia.

Jörg Knaach No. 3817, from the German Democratic Republic, wrote to ask, "How many members are in ANDEX, from which countries and how old is ANDEX?".

So to answer those questions

The first ANDEX bulletin was written and sent in January of 1974 so you could say that ANDEX is almost eight years old.

For the last mailing, there were letters sent to the following countries:

Australia-54; Austria-1; Belgium-6; Canada-61; Channel Islands-1; Colombia-1; Cuba-1; Denmark-1; Ecuador-1; England-54; Erie-1; Finland-18; France-4; German Democratic Republic-16; Ghana-2; Greece-2; Guatemala-1; Guyana-3; Hungary-1; India-2; Italy-11; Jamaica-1; Japan-12; Kenya-1; Luxemburg-1; Malaysia-1; Malta-1; Mauritius-1; Mexico-1; Netherlands-32; New Zealand-35; Northern Ireland-4; Norway-2; Philippines-2; Poland-1; Qatar-1; Romania-1; Scotland-4; Singapore-1; South Africa-2; Spain-11; Sweden-11; Switzerland-1; Uruguay-1; United States of America-589; Union of Soviet Socialist Republics-3; Wales-2; West Germany-38; West Indies-4; Yemen Arab Republic-1

making a grand total of 1007 letters that were sent out containing the ANDEX bulletin for August - September, 1981.

At the time of this writing, I've just issued Number 4103 to the latest ANDEX member. So by doing a little bit of arithmetic, you can see that although we have a large active membership, we also have a large group of members who joined for one or two years and then decided not to renew.

So, I'd like to end this article by saying, please keep your ANDEX number in the active group I get discouraged if I have to put someone's number in the non-active file.

ANDEX T-SHIRTS

Do you want your friends and neighbors to know that you belong to ANDEX? A good way to tell them is by wearing an ANDEX T-shirt. We are able to order T-shirts for you in small, medium, large, or extra large sizes from H S W Enterprises in New York.

T-shirts are \$5.75 plus postage. Postage fees would be 75

cents in the Americas, and \$1.85 for places in Europe, Asia and the South Pacific. This means that a shirt for a member in the United States or Canada, Central or South America would cost \$6.60 and a shirt for our members in other places would be \$7.60.

If any of you would like to order a T-shirt, please write and give your name, address and size information on a piece of paper and send a money order or check to our Florida office (listed on the back page of this issue) and be sure you mark it ANDEX and list your membership number. Then, I will be notified of the arrival of your money and will place the order for your T-shirt from the company in New York who will send the shirt to you.

This ought to answer your question, Gladstone Campbell, ANDEX No. 4033, of Jamaica as to where you can get an ANDEX T-shirt.

If you already have enough T-shirts in your closet, how about ordering an ANDEX patch to put on your jacket or shirt. It is a three inch triangle shaped patch with the ANDEX symbol in red, white and blue that will tell the world that you belong to ANDEX INTERNATIONAL.

These patches cost \$1.00 each and again, please send your money to our Florida office and I will enclose a patch for you in the next regular ANDEX mailing.

PEN PALS INTERNATIONAL

And here are some more people who would like to receive mail:

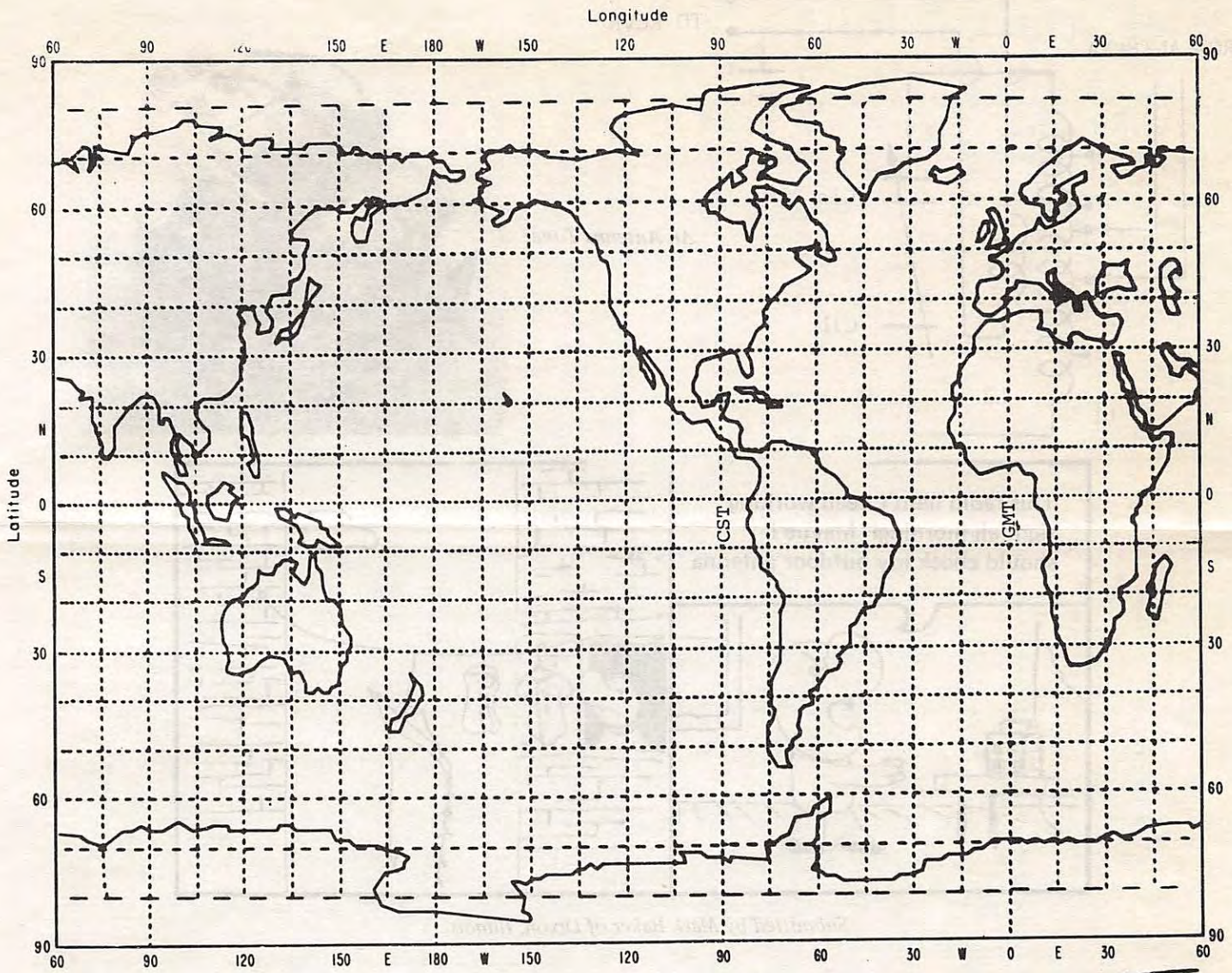
First off is DONALD TAIT, P.O. Box 1407, Darwin, N.T., 5794, Australia. Donald is ANDEX member 3996, age 48 and a semi-retired pilot. His hobbies are DXing, mainly on the Tropical Band and being a philatelist (SE Asia).

Next is PAUL ZEHR, Box 573, Ely, Nevada, 89301, United States of America. He would like to hear from DXers from Australia, New Zealand, Great Britain, Central and South America. He is ANDEX No. 3765, a student, age 18 and interested in, of course, SWL, MWing, and DXing. He also would like to hear from a few people who DX on the FM broadcast band.

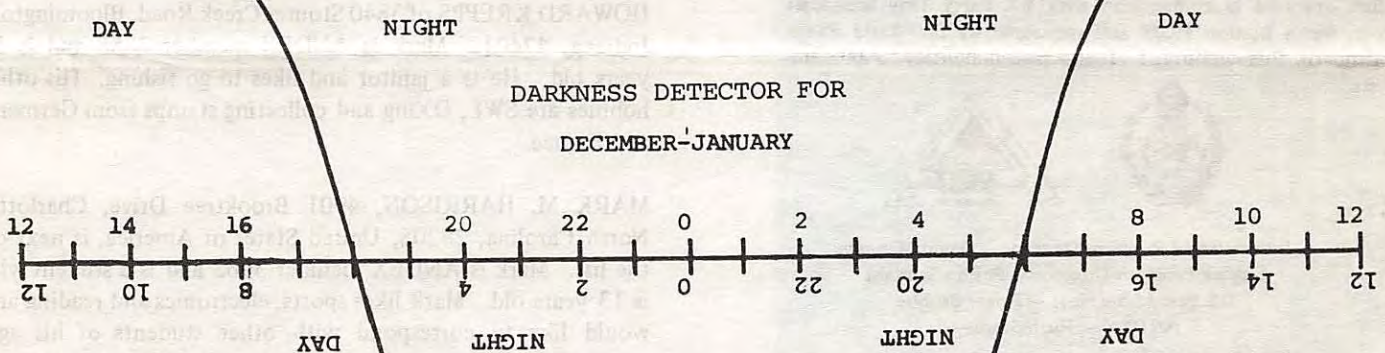
MICHAEL L. ECKHART, R.D. 2, Bender Mill Road, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, 17603, United States of America is ANDEX member 3847. He is 33 years old and a disabled veteran. His main hobby is anything to do with radio and electronics, especially SWL and collecting QSL cards. Michael would especially like to correspond with ANDEX members from Germany.

CHRIS WHITE, 789 S. Green Bay Road of Lake Forest, Illinois, 60045, United States of America also wants to be on the list of PEN PALS INTERNATIONAL. He is ANDEX No. 3791, a student, age 15. His hobbies include, besides radio, coin and paper money collections.

CONTINUED on back page . . .



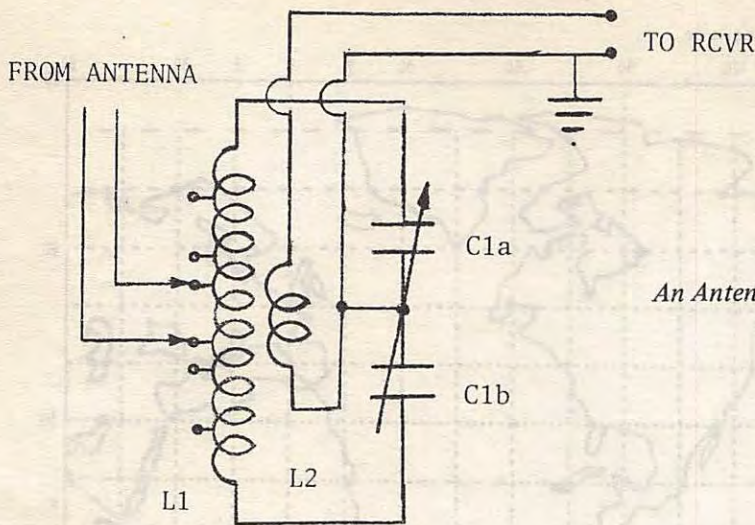
(SAVE BOTH THE MAP AND THE CURVE FOR USE WITH FUTURE ISSUES.)



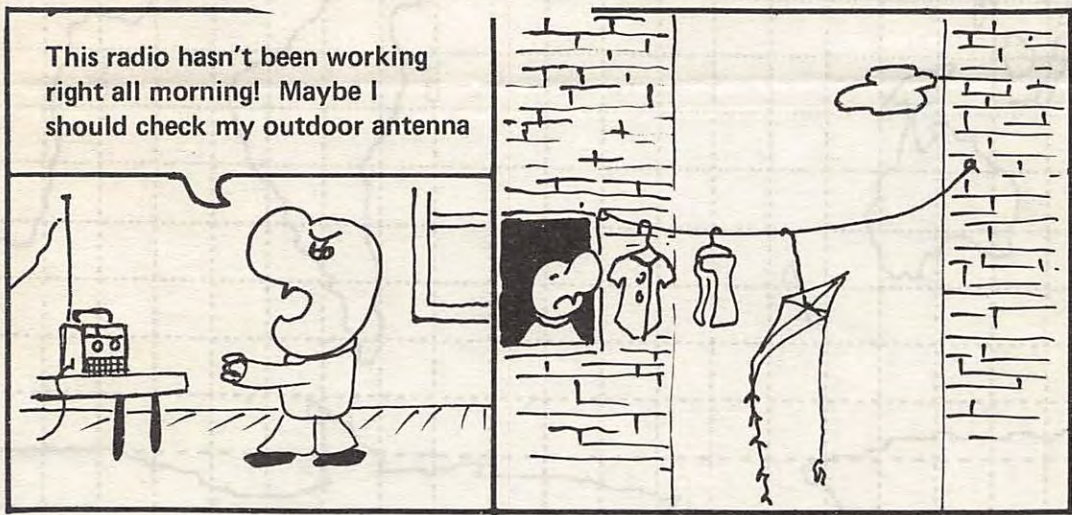
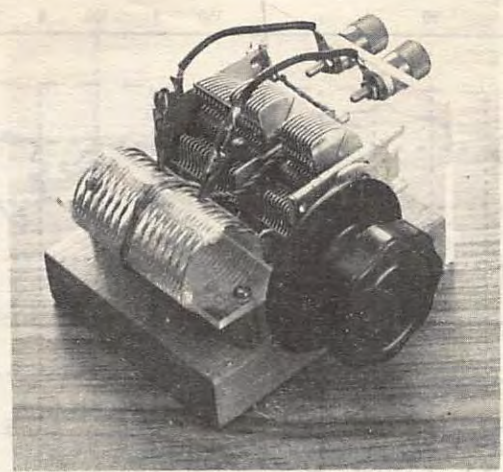
Trace the curve and time scale onto transparent paper. Copy the map. On the map, find the meridian that corresponds to your time zone, or use the GMT or CST marks.

DARKNESS DETECTOR FOR
JUNE-JULY

Line up the time scale on the equator with the meridian of your time pointing to the hour desired. The curve now shows what part of the world is dark at that time.



An Antenna Tuner



Submitted by Mark Baker of Dixon, Illinois

ANDEX International -

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International Program Director - David Manney
 English Program Director - Phillip Sandahl
 DX Party Line Host - Roger Stubbe
 ANDEX - Ruth Stanley

ADDRESS MAIL (WITH FUNDS) TO:
 HCJB
 P.O. Box 3000
 Opa Locka, Florida 33055
 United States of America

ADDRESS MAIL (WITH NO FUNDS) TO:
 ANDEX International
 Casilla 691
 Quito, Ecuador
 South America

MORE PEN PALS...

Another fellow from the United States of America is MARK HOWARD KREPPS of 3840 Stoutes Creek Road, Bloomington, Indiana, 47401. Mark is ANDEX member 3858 and is 32 years old. He is a janitor and likes to go fishing. His other hobbies are SWL, DXing and collecting stamps from Germany and France.

MARK M. HARRISON, 4901 Brooktree Drive, Charlotte, North Carolina, 28208, United States of America, is next on the list. Mark is ANDEX member 3963 and is a student who is 13 years old. Mark likes sports, electronics and reading and would like to correspond with other students of his age, especially from countries other than the United States of America.

And, now, a fellow from Canada . . . IVAN ROBICHAUD, C.P. 196, Shippagan, N.B., Canada, E0B 2P0. Ivan is ANDEX No. 3752 and is a student, age 18. His hobbies are DXing, SWL, collecting QSL cards, stamps and coins. Ivan would like to correspond with someone in the USSR, but will answer all letters.